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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Fifty-seventh session
Geneva, 31 July to 25 August 2000

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The fifty-seventh session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 31 July to 25 August 2000. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 31 July.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the session prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the tentative timetable for consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters.

3. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures.

4. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

6. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights.

7. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

8. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention.

9. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

10. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

2. Organizational and other matters

Under this item the Committee will consider its programme of work for the fifty-seventh session. It will also undertake a general debate on issues of interest to the Committee, including a thematic discussion on the question of discrimination against Roma.

3. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The Committee decided at its forty-fifth session to establish this as one of its regular and principal agenda items. Within the framework of its efforts to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee may decide to take early warning measures aimed at preventing existing problems from escalating into conflicts; or it may decide to initiate urgent action procedures aimed at responding to problems requiring immediate attention to prevent or limit the scale or number of serious violations of the Convention. The Committee may also take action or further action regarding States parties already considered under this item.

The Committee may, at its discretion, schedule the consideration of the situation in some States parties at short notice.

4. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

At its fifty-seventh session, the Committee will consider periodic reports received from the following States parties: Argentina, Czech Republic, Finland, Ghana, Holy See, Iceland, Mauritius, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. In addition, the Committee will consider initial reports from Slovakia, Slovenia and Uzbekistan.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee, as set forth in the timetable below.

5. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its fifty-seventh session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/389). Part A of that document indicates reports received from States parties and pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

6. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the Committee's provisional agenda.

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions, was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session. The Committee will have before it the report and relevant summary records of the Third Committee, and relevant General Assembly resolutions.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights

The Committee will have before it the advance version of the report on the twelfth meeting of the chairpersons of human rights treaty bodies.

7. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

8. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories in which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (CERD/C/387) concerning article 15 of the Convention and listing, as appropriate, copies of petitions, reports and working papers relating to the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

9. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session) in August 1984, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Second Decade, and subsequently the Programme of Action for the Third Decade.

The Committee discussed issues concerning the World Conference at its fifty-third to fifty-sixth sessions and will continue the discussion at its fifty-seventh session.

10. Report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

In accordance with article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the Committee is to submit, through the Secretary-General, an annual report to the General Assembly. The 2000 report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session will cover the activities of the Committee at its fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions.

Tentative timetable for consideration of reports, comments and further information submitted by States parties

The following timetable has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its fifty-sixth session.

Monday, 31 July 2000 (1401st meeting)

Czech Republic	Third and fourth periodic reports, due in 1998 and 2000, submitted in one document (CERD/C/372/Add.1)

Tuesday, 1 August 2000 (1402nd and 1403rd meetings)

Czech Republic	(continued)
Finland	Fifteenth periodic report, due in 1999 (CERD/C/363/Add.2)

Wednesday, 2 August 2000 (1404th and 1405th meetings)

Finland	(continued)
Slovenia	Initial to fourth periodic reports, due in 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/352/Add.1)

Thursday, 3 August 2000 (1406th and 1407th meetings)

Slovenia	(continued)
Slovakia	Initial to third periodic reports, due in 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/328/Add.1)

Friday, 4 August 2000 (1408th meeting)

Slovakia	(continued)

Monday, 7 August 2000 (1411th meeting)

Argentina	Fifteenth periodic report, due in 1998 (CERD/C/338/Add.9)

Tuesday, 8 August 2000 (1412th and 1413th meetings)

Argentina	(continued)
Norway	Fifteenth periodic report, due in 1999 (CERD/C/363/Add.3)

Wednesday, 9 August 2000 (1414th and 1415th meetings)

Norway	(continued)
Nepal	Fourteenth periodic report, due in 1999 (CERD/C/362/Add.3)

Thursday, 10 August 2000 (1416th and 1417th meetings)

Nepal	(continued)
Sweden	Thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/362/Add.5)

Friday, 11 August 2000 (1418th and 1419th meetings)

Sweden	(continued)
Netherlands	Thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/362/Add.4)

Monday, 14 August 2000 (1420th and 1421st meetings)

Netherlands	(continued)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Fifteenth periodic report, due in 1998 (CERD/C/338/Add.12 and CERD/C/338/Add.12, Part II)

Tuesday, 15 August 2000 (1422nd and 1423rd meetings)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	(continued)

Thematic discussion on the question of discrimination against Roma

Wednesday, 16 August 2000 (1424th and 1425th meetings)

Thematic discussion on the question of discrimination against Roma (continued)

Thursday, 17 August 2000 (1426th and 1427th meetings)

Holy See	Thirteenth to fifteenth periodic reports, due in 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/338/Add.11)
Mauritius	Thirteenth to fourteenth periodic reports, due in 1997 and 1999, submitted in one document (CERD/C/362/Add.2)

Friday, 18 August 2000 (1428th and 1429th meetings)

Holy See	(continued)
Mauritius	(continued)
Uzbekistan	Initial and second periodic reports, due in 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/327/Add.1)

Monday, 21 August 2000 (1430th and 1431st meetings)

Uzbekistan	(continued)
Iceland	Fifteenth periodic report due in 1998 (CERD/C/338/Add.10)

Tuesday, 22 August 2000 (1432nd and 1433rd meetings)

Iceland	(continued)
Ghana	Twelfth to fifteenth periodic reports, due in 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1998, submitted in one document (CERD/C/338/Add. 5)

Wednesday, 23 August 2000 (1434th meeting)

Ghana	(continued)